

Friend Cushman

Duxbury Jan 11, 1843

It was with deep emotion that I read your letter informing me of the death of our beloved Mrs. Ward. It came so unexpected that I could not realize it or hardly believe it. She has gone but what is our loss is her gain; we if we are prepared to enter the world of spirits shall soon meet her in those blessed regions where we shall "meet to part no more".

In her death we have sustained an irreparable loss and it seems to me I can hardly have it so but we must submit. Mr. Ward needs the prayers of Christians to sustain him under this severe affliction.

I am well and enjoy myself much. I have now been here nearly two and a half months and it seems like a dream. Time never passed faster with me.

I usually keep half a day every Saturday and the afternoons I have to myself and I usually employ them walking. Mr. Allen teacher of the next district with whom I am quite intimate frequently goes with me. He is a fine man and belongs to the Methodist church. My religious privileges are small. The Unitarian church to which I have been some is one mile distant. They have got a splendid house and a splendid minister but what does it all amount to. They have a religion without soul; it is dull cold and heartless and I cannot enjoy myself there.

The Methodist church is two and a half miles distant. I have been there several times and they have quite good preaching but it does not seem like home. There is no orthodox church in Duxbury and the one in Hingham where I commonly go to meeting is three miles off. Mr. Peckham a young man just from his studies was settled there a few months ago and a fine man he is. It seems more like home in his church than any other place I have been. They have a Bible class in the vestry at noon which I have joined and there I enjoy much. One Sabbath night I remained to supper with a newmade friend and attended a conference in the evening. Saturday the last day of December I went over there to a Saturday evening prayer meeting and remained all night. The next day was communion and I partook with the church (men?) and a solemn time it was for me. My mind involuntarily turned to friends in Abington who were on the same occasion partaking of the same sacred emblems and I thought (so?) of my condition and the condition of many of these friends one year ago where we had (to) part (over) lot in (this) matter and my heart ascended with thanksgiving to God for his forbearance and tender mercy. I have not had more (fine) enjoyment since I have been in Duxbury than during that Saturday evening and Sabbath.

I hope and pray that you and all the church (in A(bington)) may be actively engaged in Jesus service and that another revival of religions may follow the prayers of Christians and that many who are yet in sin may be brought to taste with us the same peace and joy which is found only in believing.

Wishing that you may enjoy that peace which is found only in living near to God. I subscribe myself Your friend truly Lewis E. Nagel

P.S. Do answer this soon and you shall have my thanks

I have written over a sheet but its hardly worth the trouble of perusing but however be sure and write as much as I have. L.E. Nagel

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The Methodist Church is two and a half miles distant. I have been there several times and they have quite good preaching but it does not seem like home.

There is no orthodox Church in Duxbury and the one in Kingston where I commonly go to meeting is three miles off. Mr. Peckham a young man just from his studies was settled there a few months ago and a fine man he is.

It seems more like home in this Church than any other place I have been. They have a Bible class in the vestry at noon which I have joined and then I enjoy much.

One Sabbath night I remained at supper with a new-made friend and attended a conference in the evening. Saturday the last day of December I went over there to a Sunday evening prayer meeting and remained all night.

The next day was communion and I partook with the church there and a solemn

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L E Noyes

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Mr. Josiah Cushman  
Abington  
Mass

